



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Akira YAMAMOTO et al.

Group Art Unit: 1614

Appl. No. : 10/822,006

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed : April 12, 2004

For : METHOD FOR CULTURING CELLS, CELL CULTURE CARRIERS AND
CELL CULTURE APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
220 20th Street S.
Customer Window, Mail Stop _____
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03
Arlington VA 22202

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98,

Applicants hereby call to the Examiner's attention the following documents:

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 06-209761A, which was published on August 2, 1994, together with an English language translation of the same. Applicants note that this document is discussed on page 2 of the specification;

US 5,897,953 to OGAWA et al.

Applicants also bring to the Examiner's attention the following co-pending, commonly assigned, patent application publication:

U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0162287 A1 to YAMAMOTO et al., entitled "Carrier for Cell Culture and Method for Culturing Cells," which was filed on February 25, 2003 and published on August 28, 2003.

Additionally, Applicants hereby submit a copy of the search report from the United Kingdom Patent Office that was mailed on June 28, 2004, with respect to counterpart United Kingdom Patent Application No. 0408221.0, in which the following documents were cited:

GB 2093040 A which was published on March 4, 1982;

EP 0313008 A which was published on April 26, 1989, accompanied by an English WPI Abstract 1989-123904;

SU 1567623 A which was published on May 30, 1990, accompanied by an English WPI Abstract 1991-035151;

RU 2032734 C1 which was published on April 10, 1995, accompanied by an English WPI Abstract 1995-401990; and

US 4,448,884 B to Henderson.

The category of relevance, pertinent portions, and claims to which each document is relevant, as ascertained by the United Kingdom Patent Examiner applying United Kingdom rules to the United Kingdom claims are set forth in the United Kingdom search report.

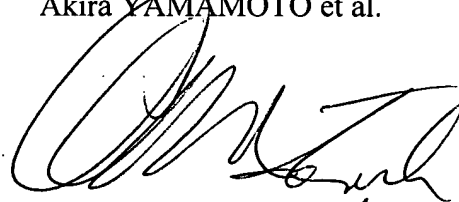
Further to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's decision to waive the requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(i), copies of the U.S. patent and U.S. patent application publication are not enclosed herewith. However, if any copies are needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the above material and cite the same. Copies of the above-noted foreign documents are attached hereto and all of the documents have been listed on the attached PTO-1449 Form. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached Form and to return a copy of the completed Form to the Applicants with the next official communication in the present application.

Applicants note that an Office Action on the merits has not issued in the present application, and thus no fee is believed necessary to ensure consideration of the submitted material. However, if an Office Action on the merits has issued and is crossing this statement in the mail, the undersigned hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any fee necessary for the consideration of this statement, including any payment under 37 C.F.R. §1.17 (p) to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Akira YAMAMOTO et al.

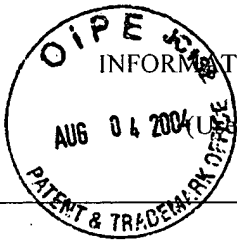


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FORM PTO-1449

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Patent and Trademark OfficeAtty. Docket No.
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BY APPLICANT

AUG 04 2004 (Use several sheets if necessary)

Applicant
Akira YAMAMOTO et al.Filing Date
April 12, 2004Group
1614

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER							DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		5	8	9	7	9	5	3	04/27/99	OGAWA et al.			
	2003/	0	1	6	2	2	8	7	08/28/03	YAMAMOTO et al.			
		4	4	4	8	8	8	4	05/15/84	HENDERSON			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER							DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO	
	6	-	2	0	9	7	6	1	08/02/94	JAPAN			X	
		2	0	9	3	0	4	0	08/25/82	UNITED KINGDOM				
		0	3	1	3	0	0	8	04/26/89	E.P.O.				
		1	5	6	7	6	2	3	05/30/90	SOVIET UNION				
		2	0	3	2	7	3	4	04/10/95	RUSSIA				

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	1	English WPI Abstract 1989-123904. of EP 0313008, 04/26/89 8/14/04
	2	English WPI Abstract 1991-035151. of SA 1567623, 05/30/90 8/14/04
	3	English WPI Abstract 1995-401990. of RU 2032734, 04/10/95 8/14/04

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.